FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

Security Situation — After further fighting with gunmen in Beirut throughout 30 August, the Lebanese Army advanced along various axes into the western sector on 31 August in an attempt to restore order, Beirut radio reported. The shelling of Greater Beirut continued despite Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri's reported agreement to withdraw all gunmen from the streets and cooperate with the Lebanese Army, according to the radio. Birri subsequently dissociated himself from the shelling, asserting in a statement broadcast by the radio that it was obstructing further accord and calling on "brother activists and the national forces" to abide by the cease-fire. Meanwhile, Phalangist forces responded to the "Syrian and socialist" shelling, which centered on Lebanese Army positions and Christian residential areas, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Over 3,000 shells fell on the city and nearby areas on 30-31 August, according to military sources cited by the radio.

U.S. Marines near Beirut airport again came under fire on 30 August and the Americans retaliated by destroying two armed positions in Ash-Shuwayfat and the Faculty of Sciences area, a Marine spokesman announced in a statement reported by the Voice of Lebanon. The U.S. Embassy was also subjected to rocket and machinegun fire while four French soldiers were killed and seven others were wounded when shells hit the French Embassy, the radio also reported.

A Lebanese Army statement broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon early on 31 August accused "foreign quarters" of trying to rekindle the civil war of 1975-76 and announced a curfew in the areas of the Army's current operations aimed at preserving the unity of Beirut. The Army will fire at any armed person without warning and will deal with sources of fire "very firmly," the statement added.

While fighting raged in Beirut, a separate clash erupted in Tripoli between the Islamic Unification Movement and pro-Iraq Ba'thists, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Meanwhile, the IDF evacuated three villages in the 'Alayh area but froze further withdrawals following the Israeli-U.S. talks in Jerusalem, Beirut radio noted. The Israeli Defense Ministry subsequently confirmed that the delay in the IDF withdrawal is "only for a few days," according to Jerusalem radio.

Related Political Developments — Amal Movement leader Birri called for the resignation of the government and the disarming of the Phalangist militias and stated that Amal will continue to fight the "sectarian" Army until its demands for reform are granted, according to a Damascus radio report on a press conference given by Birri. Beirut radio's account of Birri's remarks did not mention the threat to continue fighting but quoted him as calling on gunmen to leave the streets. Earlier, a Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) spokesman announced that the PSP had placed "all its resources" at the disposal of Amal and said the Lebanese Army must return to its barracks before a political accord can be reached, Damascus television reported.

Israel

Political maneuvering continued as the Herut Party met unsuccessfully 30 August to choose a new party leader to succeed Prime Minister Menahem Begin, according to Jerusalem radio. The prime minister had agreed to postpone his resignation after pleas by ministers for time to prepare and organize the party, the prime minister's adviser Uri Porat told Jerusalem television. Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon, mentioned in earlier Jerusalem radio reports as a possible candidate, will support Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for the post, the radio said.

Meanwhile, the other candidate mentioned, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, wants the Herut center to decide on the new party head while Shamir prefers the party ministers to choose the new candidate, another radio report added.

Israel needs the broadest possible government and a feeling of unity, Labor Party Chairman Shi'mon Peres stated in remarks Broadcast by Jerusalem television. With the "de facto collapse" of the present government, more and more Knesset factions are becoming convinced that the Alignment could lead a new government, Peres asserted. Told that party leaders in the Likud had reiterated their support for their partnership in the alliance, Peres maintained that the situation has changed now that Begin has declared he will definitely resign. Informal talks are being held with various factions, he said.

A Jerusalem radio correspondent claimed that neither the National Religious Party (NRP), Agudat Yisra'el, nor TAMI is "averse" to the "possibility of setting up an alternative government led by the Alignment." Education Minister Zvulun Hammer stated that the NRP supports the establishment of a "national unity government" and will contact the Alignment to try to persuade it to join, the radio said. Likud MK Dror Zeigerman also began efforts to consolidate a group of coalition Knesset members who will demand a national unity government, another radio report added.

In another development, Uri Porat announced in a statement broadcast by the radio that the visit by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had been canceled because of the prime minister's declared intention to resign.

PLO Affairs

Sanctions Call — PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi told the UN conference on Palestine in Geneva that the United Nations should adopt sanctions against Israel to dissuade it from pursuing its "racist" policy, AFP reported.

PLO Research Center — Jordan has officially granted approval for the opening of a new Palestinian research center in Amman, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio announced.

Libya-Chad

Calling it a "matter of security," Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi confirmed Libya's political support for former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei while stating that "there is no need" for military support. In remarks broadcast by Hamburg television, Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated that Libya is not involved militarily in Chad. Meanwhile, Chadian President Hissein Habre expressed fears in a radio interview cited by AFP that Libya will turn its present "military occupation" in the north into a fait accompli. There is also proof, the president stated, that Libyan-trained commandos have infiltrated the south. As for negotiations, Libya is the aggressor so the government will hold talks only with it and not with the Transitional National Union Government led by Goukouni Oueddei. Chad is also ready to conclude a "mutual nonaggression pact" with Libya, Habre announced.

Iran

Hijackers Surrender — The gunmen who hijacked an Air France plane to Tehran surrendered to Iranian authorities 31 August and requested political asylum after meeting with Iraqi and Lebanese clergymen and reading a statement at a press conference, according to Tehran radio.

Prosecutor General on Opposition — Tudeh Party leaders will be tried "in the near future," Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi stated in an interview with the paper *Keyhan* cited by IRNA. The official also stated that the Hojjatiyeh faction may resume activities subject to permission from the Interior Ministry.

Vacant Cabinet Posts — The clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio asserted that the Majlis had rejected three ministerial candidates proposed by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi because of a struggle between the prime minister and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who had earlier attacked the government in a Friday sermon for being slow and creating problems for the people.

Pakistan

More than 40 people were arrested when almost 40,000 demonstrators clashed with riot police in Sind Province, AFP reported.

Afghanistan

Soviet troops suffered "heavy losses" during renewed fighting with mujahidin leader Ahmad Shah Mas'ud's forces in the Panjshir valley, AFP reported citing diplomatic sources in Islamabad.

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AFP Reports Government Reshuffle 'Imminent'
BK311350 Hong Kong AFP in English 1340 GMT 31 Aug 83

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 31 (AFP) — An Afghan Government reshuffle in which Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost and two vice premiers are expected to be replaced, was "imminent," Western diplomatic sources said here today. The two vice premiers are Pohanmal Guldad and Khalil Ahmad Abahi, respectively in charge of higher education and planning. All three are about to be named as ambassadors abroad, the sources said.

Several Afghan and foreign travellers who have arrived here recently from Kabul have reported that official portraits of President Babrak Karmal have been withdrawn from certain public places there. Similar reports have come from Qandahar, the country's second city.

Mr Karmal, who is 56, was just returned from a long stay in Moscow, and a former senior official who fled the country recently described him as giving the impression of a man in ill health, tired by three-and-a-half years of power.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, who is considered to be in "excellent health" by foreign diplomats based in Kabul, went to Moscow last week for "medical reasons," according to the national Afghan radio.

Meanwhile diplomatic observers are intrigued by the return to Kabul on August 15 of former Defence Minister General Mohammad Rafi, after two years of "training" at a Soviet military academy. They are wondering if perhaps the expected government reshuffle will extend to the upper leadership level.

The Kremlin appears to have undertaken a series of consultations with leading Afghan supporters and critics of the Kabul regime.

For instance, Interior Minister Sayyed Mohammad Gulabzoy, head of the minority "Khalq" wing in the Afghan Communist Party, returned from the Soviet Union several months ago with the assurance of the delivery of a large quantity of arms, according to a Western military source.

Other prominent Afghans making the trip to the Kremlin included General Mohammad Khan, a former defence minister under ousted King Zaher Shah, and his army commander General Farooq.

Diplomatic observers here believe that if Mr Karmal is about to be replaced, although he seems to have Moscow's full confidence, then it will be a temporary move caused by ill health.

Observers do not exclude the possibility that the government might be broadened with the entry of politicians who are not members of the ruling Afghan Communist Party.

Soviets Reportedly Suffer 'Heavy Losses' in Panjsher
BK301500 Hong Kong AFP in English 1442 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 30 (AFP) — Soviet troops suffered "heavy losses" last week during intense fighting in the Panjsher Valley, where rebel leader Ahmad Shah Masud ended a cease-fire with the Red Army, Western diplomats said here. They said Mujahadin resistance fighters had attacked on August 22 troops and vehicles recently sent to the valley 150 kms (94 miles) north of Kabul. In retaliation the Soviet Air Force had bombed several localities, including the small town of Gulbahar where 20 civilians had been killed.

Commander Masud has reportedly refused on five occasions in the past two months to meet a high ranking Soviet officer to discuss extending the cease-fire. He declared himself ready for a seventh large-scale Soviet-Afghan offensive, after a six month truce in which the valley has gradually regained some semblance of normality. French doctors recently returned from the area said the people had enough foodstocks to see out a long siege and the rebels were well armed.

Meanwhile in the capital, Kabul, diplomatic sources said rebels had carried out several attacks on the city centre, which included blowing up two army jeeps, killing their seven occupants. Seven Communist Party members and government informers have been murdered and several army positions south and west of (?Kabul) shelled.

Five days ago in Qandahar, in the south of the country, rebels killed 24 Afghan soldiers in broad daylight. [Word indistinct] soldiers retaliated by bombing the villages which the rebels had passed through after raiding military positions round the town.

Earlier, on August 20, rebels in the Logar Valley, south of the capital, kidnapped three "Soviet advisers" who had come to discuss a provisional cease-fire for harvest time. Afghan officials accompanying the delegation were killed. Four days later Islamic resistance fighters destroyed 100 army vehicles making their way south.

Ershad Reacts to Plan for Fence on Indian Border

BK271332 Dhaka General Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad has expressed concern over the Indian plan to rebuild barbed wire fencing along the border with Bangladesh and denounced the plea for building it.

Addressing a mammoth gathering of the delegates of the 18-point program implementation council from Dhaka city and representatives from all over the country in Dhaka today, Gen Ershad said this will impair relations between the two neighboring coiuntres. He said Bangladesh wants to maintain good relations with its neighbors and hoped that this gesture will be reciprocated. The CMLA categorically refuted the allegation of infiltration of Bangladesh nationals into India. Our people are living in peace and harmony and they have been enjoying better living counditions, he said, adding: There is no reason for them to cross over to an uncertain life in foreign land leaving their homeland which they have established after supreme sacrifice.

Turning to development activities in the country, GenErshad called upon the people to [words indistinct] 18-point program in every (?hearth) and hamlet for establishing a happy and prosperous Bangladesh. He said the 18-point program is a charger aimed at economic emancipation of the people and the fulfillment of their hopes, aspirations, and [word indistinct].

Talks With India on Border Rivers Begin

BK291209 Dhaka BSS in English 1113 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 29 (BSS) — Bangladesh and India began in Dhaka on Sunday a three-day expert level talks aimed at finding out solutions to the problems of the five common border rivers. The talks are preparatory to the next Indo-Bangladesh joint rivers commission to be held at minsterial level in December.

The current round of expert level meeting is expected to make recommendations to the joint rivers commission meeting on the sharing of the water of the common rivers between the two countries.

Ministers Explain Future Programs, Development

Information Minister

BK270725 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The information minister, Syed Najmuddin Hashim, has said the present government is (?endeavoring) to establish real democracy by removing all kinds of social injustices with an administration responsible to the people. Speaking at a function of the Lions Club in Dhaka yesterday, he said the government has started taking steps for the welfare of the masses, and no vested group could stop it in achieving this objective.

The information minister said the radio network in the country has been expanded manifold since the liberation of the country. Two 250-kilowatt shortwave transmitters at Kabirpur near Dhaka will be commissioned by October to reach our voice all over the world. Besides transmitters with powers ranging from 10 to 100 kilowatts are being installed or have already been installed in Comilla, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Rangpur, and Bogra. He said the construction of a TV relay center at (Chachra) in Khulna has already been completed and will start functioning shortly. At the moment, people living in the 90 percent area of the country have been given the opportunity of witnessing the TV programs clearly.

Agriculture Minister

BK291159 Dhaka BSS in English 1111 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka Aug 29 (BSS) — Investments in agriculture and rural development are to be given top priority in Bangladesh's economic planning, Agriculture Minister Obaidullah Khan said here recently.

Talking to private sector entrepreneurs here on Sunday, the agriculture minister pointed out that the government's policy to increase investment in the agriculture sector aimed at creating more jobs for the rural population while activating the rural economy.

Mr Khan said the government would encourage greater private sector participation in the agriculture which would activate the country's overall economy and halt migration from the rural areas to the already overpopulated cities and urban areas.

Doha Leaves for Geneva Conference on Palestine

BK270720 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, left Dhaka last night for Geneva to lead the Bangladesh delegation at the international conference on the question of Palestine beginning in the Swiss city on Monday. The conference will continue till the 7th of next month. Sponsored by the United Nations, the conference aims at attaining governmental and nongovernmental support for the Palestinian people to exercise their right for their homeland on the basis of the resolutions of the world body.

Sind Governor Describes Situation as 'Improved'

BK311034 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 31 Aug 83

[Text] The Sind governor, Lieutenant General S. M. Abbasi, has said the situation created by a section of the politicians has improved and moving [as heard] toward normalcy. Talking to newsmen in Karachi today, he said many of the participants of the movement called Movement for the Restoration of Democracy have dissociated themselves with the introduction of the element of violence.

To a question, he said that the administration has demonstrated full patience and leniency in handling the situation. Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi also praised the role of the adminstration and the police department in handling the situation.

AFP Reports on 17th Day of Civil Disobedience Campaign

BK310200 Hong Kong AFP in English 1731 GMT 30 Aug 83

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 30 (AFP) — More than 40 people were injured in clashes between demonstrators and police in Hala, Sind Province, today.

Almost 40,000 demonstrators gathered in Hala, and two banks and a post office were burned when they attacked a truckload of riot police which broke into the crowd. Four policemen were injured during the fighting.

Today was the 17th day of the civil disobedience campaign against General Ziaul Haq's martial law regime organised by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), a group of eight opposition parties. The bulk of the trouble has been in Sind Province, stronghold of the Pakistani Peoples' Party (PPP) of hanged Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. The PPP was banned along with all other political parties four years ago, but it has not been made clear whether they would be allowed to take part in the general elections planned for spring 1985.

Today Defence Minister Mir Ali Ahmad called on a permanent ban on the party.

Today's demonstration in Hala was in support of local religious leader and PPP supporter Pir Talibur Maula.

Groups of MDR militants continued their campaign of "voluntary arrest" in a dozen towns in the southern province, while in Pano Aquil in north Sind some 20,000 demonstrators clashed with police, a reliable source said.

The MRD know that they will not force the government to heed their demands for lifting of martial law and a general election unless they can spread the disruption into other parts of the country, which so far they have been unable to do. However, they have continued a campaign of "voluntary arrests" in a number of other areas, with a small number of militants gathering each day in an effort to show their determination not to give up.

The country's lawyers, who stopped work for a few hours last week, are planning a national day of protest on Saturday, when they will parade through the streets brandishing copies of the 1973 constitution, which they want restored.

Despite pleas from religious leaders and conservative politicians, both the MRD and the government have refused to negotiate on the basis of a halt to the civil disobedience campaign in return for political concessions.

Sind Political Leader Rules Out Talks With Zia

GF301534 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 30 Aug 83 p 18

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Karachi — Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi, the elder son of Ghulam Mustapha Jatoi, the Sind People's Party chief who was arrested on the second day of the current demonstrations, has said that with so many political leaders being held there was danger of the MRD movement passing into the hands of people who would not be able to keep it peaceful.

Mr Murtaza Jatoi is himself a wanted man and the meeting took place in a secret location in the smart Clifton area of Karachi, not far from where Miss Benazir Bhutto is held prisoner in her own home which has been declared a sub-jail. Barbed wire tops the high walls of the house and about 12 policemen patrol outside.

Mr Murtaza denied rumours that opposition leaders were ready to meet the government for negotiations. He said there could be no negotiations until the government agreed to abide by the 1973 constitution and hold elections within 90 days.

Mr Murtaza agreed that in the current agitation in Sind there were some people who wanted to see a breakaway state but said it was essentially a movement for democracy.

He said that since his father was arrested he had had no communication from him. Mr Murtaza (24) last week resigned as chairman of the district council at Nawabshah. One of the MRD's calls is for all district councillors to resign and the movement claims more than 400 have done so.

Meanwhile, MRD leaders and workers continued to court arrest in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Multan, Dera Ghazi Khan, Hyderabad and some other places. An unconfirmed report said one school teacher was killed as police opened fire at a violent crowd at Tharo near Nawabshah in Sind.

In Tando Jam, near Hyderabad, police fired tear gas on a demonstration of several thousand people blocking a main road, official sources said.

Leaders of students supporting the opposition campaign claimed 13 of their colleagues were injured in the police action. Police said they had detained several people who hurled stones at a police station.

In Hyderabad itself several hundred people took anti-government placards onto the streets before being dispersed by police.

In the large provincial town of Sukkur, the president of the bar association, Mr Halim Przada, was taken from his home by police. The bar association passed a resolution criticising the Zia regime and demanding Mr Halim's immediate release.

In another development, the High Court Bar Association has elected a new president, Nizam Ahmed. He defeated the previous president, Mr Syed Naziruddin, who last week invited President Zia to address the association.

The chief of Jamaat-e-Islami Mian Tufail Mohammad met Gen. Zia along with three other Jamaat leaders at the invitation of the president on Monday and discussed with him the internal political situation for about two hours.

17 Sentenced for Violating Martial Law Regulations

BK310304 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 31 Aug 83

[Text] A summary military court in Nawabshah sentenced 17 people from (Kandiaro) subdistrict to 9 months rigorous imprisonment and fined them 30,000 rupees each after finding them guilty under criminal penal code provisions 147 and 188 and martial law regulations No 13 and 33 and martial law order No 77.

Zia Orders Ansari Commission To Continue Work

BK301726 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] The president has issued an order saying that the Ansari Commission on the form of government will continue to work. A press note issued by the commission in Islamabad today says its additional terms of reference will be to suggest ways and formulate proposals for giving practical shape to its recommendation, which has been accepted by the government, and any other matter which may be assigned to it by the president.

President Zia Urged To Review 12 Aug Proposals

GF301420 Karachi Dawn in English 25 Aug 83 p 12

[Text] Peshawar, Aug 24 — The chief of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation League, Mr K.H. Khurshid, has called upon President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq to immediately review his August 12 announcement "which has been rejected by the nation."

He also asked the president to invite the representatives of defunct political parties with the precondition that ban on parties should be removed forthwith so that they should start functioning.

Addressing a press conference here this morning Mr Khurshid said a number of points in president's speech needed details and clarifications. Besides, whatever amendments "are required to be made in the constitution should be done in consultation with political parties and later these ought to be regularised by the elected assembly."

He underlined the importance of continued and unhindered political process without which unpatriotic elements could not be pinpointed or controlled.

He also asked for a time-table for the process of lifting martial law, and demanded elections in Azad Kashmir "where there is no martial law nor has the constitution been suspended."

Mr Khurshid was of the view that elections to local bodies in NWFP were not going to be fair and impartial as powerful elements in the government were "openly interfering."

NEPAL

Politicians Urge Political Prisoners' Release

OW301916 Hong Kong AFP in English 1851 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Katmandu, Aug. 30 (AFP) — Political leaders from all sides have called for the immediate release of 168 Nepalese political prisoners, including 45 students.

A joint statement from the politicians said that the newly-elected government had announced it would release the students, labour unionists, and others detained under the security act. However, it had yet to do so, the statement said.

"It is regrettable that even the King's general amnesty granted to Nepalese politicians in April 1980 has not come into effect. The present government has not honoured the ammesty by releasing the political prisoners," it said.

SRI LANKA

Liyanage News Briefing on Current Situation

BK261422 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene this morning met Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's special envoy G. Parthasarathy at (Janadhani Mandira). The meeting lasted 90 minutes. This was announced by Secretary, Ministry of State,Douglas Liyanage at a news briefing held at the Information Department today.

Mr Liyanage said that they had a frank exchange of views and Mr Parthasarathy indicated that the Indian Government was prepared to extend any assistance that was required by Sri Lanka in the next stage of rehabilitation. No aide had been present at the meeting between the president and the Indian special envoy. Mr Parthasarathy also met Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed this evening.

The secretary, Ministry of State, said that there was no fixed schedule regarding the Indian special envoy's discussion; however, he could have further talks with the president as he would be in Sri Lanka for a few more days.

An Indian journalist present at the news briefing today made the point that some 10,000 Indian fishermen residing at Rameswaram had stopped going on their fishing expedition for fear that they would be held by the Sri Lankan naval patrol in the area. Clarifying this issue, Mr Liyanage said that fishermen had been obviously scared by false reports. He categorically denied the scare stories that the Sri Lankan Navy (?tried) to seize their boats. A Defense Ministry statement about fishing stated that orders were given to the (?security) forces not to interfere with activities in the Palk Strait. Mr Liyanage told the Indian journalist that he would be doing a useful service if he told fishermen on the other side of the Palk Strait that we had no warlike intentions.

The hartal [strike] in the Jaffna district, which commenced on Wednesday, is now on its third day. Mr Liyanage said that, since this type of activity normally runs for 3 days, it could be presumed that today will be third and final day of the hartal. There had been no official proclamation of the hartal. He said hartals of this nature are usually accompanied by some action directed against the government. Two buses of the north region transport board were set on fire yesterday and another was damaged. On Wednesday, the first day of the hartal, two jeeps were stolen from the marketing department and the department of highways. Two other jeeps belonging to the Water Resources Board were damaged. The two jeeps that were stolen were tracked down by an Army patrol at (Ochutistan) on the main road to Mullaitivu. On seeing the patrol, the occupants abandoned the jeeps and escaped into the jungle. There were about six to eight persons in these vehicles. According to the secretary they were reported to have been armed but did not put up a fight.

Mr Liyanage said that reports stated that, on the first and second day of the hartal, some buses had operated in Jaffna. However, none was in operation today.

Mr Liyanage disclosed that, on Wednesday 24 Tamil youths were discovered with false endorsements on their passports at a hotel near the Katunayake Airport. They had been put to travel to Montreal via Moscow on an Aeroflot flight. Their affected departure did not seem to have been linked with terrorism, but they certainly [words indistinct] flee the country. The 24 youths have been taken into custody because they had false endorsements on their passports.

In regard to the situation in the welfare centers, Mr Liyanage said that the number of displaced persons in Kilinochchi had increased 1,500. People were arriving there by various means. The number of displaced persons in other areas reduced considerably. The commissioner general of the social services had requested members of the public, who wished to make contributions in the kind, to hand in their donations to the Ministry of Social Services at Number 14 (Berkley), Colombo -17. Those wishing to make donations without [words indistinct] are requested to do so with respective government agents.

The curfew in the 14 districts will remain unchanged on Saturday and Sunday. The curfew hours during the period will be from 2300 to 0400. Mr Liyanage said that the curfew will be enforced very strictly and he advised people not to take the curfew lightly.

Reportage on Officials' Talks With Indian Envoy

Lands Minister Dissanayake

BK270914 Hong Kong AFP in English 0854 GMT 27 Aug 83

[AFP: This dispatch was subject to censorship]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug. 27 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's land policy, which some minority Tamils cite as a major grievance, was expected to dominate talks here today between the visiting Indian Government special envoy and Lands Minister Gamini Dis

sanayake. Envoy Gopalaswami Parathasarathy, an adviser to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, arrived here on Friday for mediation efforts in the wake of communal violence in late July which left more than 370 people dead, most of them Tamils of Indian descent. He was expected to sound out the government on whether so-called Tamil areas were being given to Sinhala farmers, an issue Sri Lanka's northern Tamils mention as one of their grievances against the Sinhalese-dominated government, observers said.

Minister Dissanayake has said that the law would apply to all, irrespective of ethnic differences as the state wanted to develop the land and take certain precautionary ecological measures. Mr. Parathasarathy was also likely to ask whether Tamils now illegally settled on state lands would be evicted under a new amendment passed in parliament earlier this month.

The talks were considered important as Mr. Dissanayake, in addition to being lands and land development minister, is also president of the Plantation Trade Union, which supports the ruling United National Party. Most plantation workers of Indian origin are represented by the Ceylon Workers Congress, (CWC) headed by S. Thondaman who is also a cabinet minister. Some of them living in the townships surrounded by the plantations, particularly tea plantations, were affected by the violence last month. The Indian envoy was also expected to bring up the question of their security.

Other Ministers

BK271640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Prime minister's special envoy, Mr G. Parthsarathy, today held further discussions with Sri Lankan leaders to find an acceptable solution to the ethnic problem. He met Mr Gamini Dissanayake and Mr Cyril Mathew, two ministers in the Jayewardene government, to know their opinions on various issues. Mr Parthasarathy also held discussions with the foreign minister Mr A.C.S. Hameed for the second time since his arrival in Colombo on Thursday. Meanwhile, the leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr Amirthlingam, discussed the latest developments with his party MP's.

Tamil Leaders

BK290347 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister's special envoy, Mr Parthasarathy, has had talks with the secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr Amirthalingam, and the Ceylon Workers Congress leader and the Sri Lankan minister, Mr Thondaman, in Colombo. He also met the Tamil members of Parliament. Mr Parthasarathy will have another round of talks with President Jayewardene tomorrow.

AFP: Tamil Group Concerned About India's Mediation

BK281000 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 28 Aug 83

[AFP: "This dispatch has been subject to censorship."]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug 28 (AFP) — A group of Sri Lankan Tamils has sent a letter to President Junius Jayewardene expressing its concern about India's attempts to play a mediating role between the country's Tamil and Sinhala communities, while New Delhi's special envoy today continued his talks here. The group, made up of Tamils of Indian origin who are now Sri Lankan citizens, said, "However anxious and sincere the government of India may be in attempting to assist us in finding a solution to our problem, we Sri Lanka citizens of recent Indian origin do not wish India to assume the role of our protector or guardian." "Our natural legal guardians are the people of Sri Lanka and the government of Sri Lanka. They said.

The letter added that the racial question here was being further complicated by New Delhi's "interest... in the security of persons of recent Indian origin in the island."

Bandaranaike Urges 'Limited' Indian Role in Tamil Issue

BK301150 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Former Sri Lanka prime minister, Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, said in an interview published in the *Indian Express in New Delhi yesterday that India should have only a* limited role in helping to solve the Tamil issue. The REUTER news agency, quoting Mrs Bandaranaike, said that India must not seem to be applying pressure. She should just explore possibility and see where differences can be narrowed down.

Mrs Bandaranaike said the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, had adopted a correct line toward the problem in Sri Lanka.

TULF MP's Reject Demand To Abandon Separatism

BK290949 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 29 Aug 83

[AFP: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Text] Colombo, Aug. 29 (AFP) — Parliamentarians of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), meeting here over the weekend, have rejected a government demand that they abandon separatism as precondition for a dialogue on ethnic issues, informed sources said today. The sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that this unyielding stand put such a dialogue in the near future in jeopardy.

Several TULF parliamentarians were in Colombo to meet their leader Appapillai Amirthalingam who returned from India after talks in New Delhi and Madras on last month's communal clashes which killed over 370 people, most of them minority Tamils. Indian Government special envoy Gopalaswami Parathasarathy, whose mediation efforts began last week, is to

hold a second round of talks with President Junius Jayewardene later today.

Meanwhile government spokesman Douglas Liyanage said today that some violent incidents involving majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils were reported over the weekend in the eastern district of Batticalos. He said this was a "localised affair," probably arising out of the poor response in the district to a demonstration called by Tamils in Jaffna last week to mark the killing of Tamil detainees in a Colombo prison at the height of last month's anti-Tamil violence.

The Indian envoy has already been told by the government that there will be no dialogue with the TULF unless the latter abandons its separatist [word indistinct]. President Jayewardene is expected to reiterate this stand in his talks with Mr. Parathasarathy later today.

The TULF leader yesterday met former prime Minister Sirinavo Bandaranaike, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP). Both sides remained tight-lipped on the nature of the talks but well placed sources told AFP today that Mr. Amirthalingam was trying to ascertain Mrs. Bandaranaike's view on the government's precondition for talks. The SLFP has publicly declared itself against separatism and voted for the constitutio al amendment this month banning parties espousing secession.

The government today denied a report in the daily *Sun* newspaper that informal contacts wre underway between the government and the SLFP to evolve a consensus among parties opposed to separatism.

Secretary Liyanage Denies UNP-SLFP Links

BK301156 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] The president is not considering withdrawal of the civic disabilities enforced on Mrs Bandaranaike. Reports, which appeared in *The Sun* newspaper, were discounted at a news briefing held in Colombo yesterday by Secretary to the Ministry of State Douglas Liyanage. Mr Liyanage also said that no informal contacts have been established between the United National Party [UNP] and Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP]. Under the headline "UNP Consults SLFP," *The Sun* had reported to such contact.

The secretary also denied certain views expressed in the story. The seventh amendment may be (?dropped), which appeared in the same newspaper. This news item referred to certain views alleged to have been held by the secretary to the Ministry of Justice.

Mr Liyanage said that he was correcting these news items as a spokesman for the government. He added that there was a very liberal censorship of newspaper reports, particularly when such reports are not directly linked with security measures.

In answer to a question, Mr Liyanage said that, in an interview with the *Indian Express* correspondent, President Jayewardene did indicate that Tamil Nadu had been of assistance to terrorists by willingly or unwillingly providing refuge for them. That was the only context in which this was mentioned. He said that there was no suggestion that Tamil Nadu politically, physically, or in any military sense was helping the terrorists. The allegation was that Tamil Nadu was merely providing refuge or some mode of assistance by allowing certain people to refer to that country as their homeland and by welcoming such people back.

Parliament Speaker Resigns; Cabinet Changes Speculated

BK310908 Hong Kong AFP in English 0838 GMT 31 Aug 83

[AFP: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug. 31 (AFP) — The resignation of parliament speaker M.A. Bakeer Markar has fanned speculation of impending changes in the government as Sri Lanka recovers from an outburst of violence just last month, political observers said here today.

Speaker Mr. Markar, who tendered his resignation to President Junius Jayewardene yesterday, offered no reasons for the move although his health was believed to be poor. This revived earlier reports that President Jayewardene had planned cabinet changes after his government began its second term of office at the end of July.

Former Agriculture Minister E.L. Senanayake was tipped to be elected the new speaker when parliament meets early next month, they said, while highly placed sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that about four ministers might be dropped from the cabinet to make room for younger blood. A couple of them might take up diplomatic appointments, they said, enabling the president to fill their vacant parliamentary seats by nominating successors instead of holding by-elections. But specific changes are difficult to predict because President Jayewardene usually plays his cards close to his chest, the observers said.

Last December the government won electoral approval at a national referendum to extend the life of the current parliament by another six years, starting in August. The president was then expected to make some changes to strengthen his hand. But bloody clashes between the Sinhalese majority and Tamil minority, which left more than 370 people dead and 100,000 homeless, apparently diverted attention to maintaining order, particularly as sections of the armed forces remained inactive or even helped in the violence, the observers added. The situation was futher complicated by overtures from the Indian Government, under increased pressure from its southern Indian Tamils to intervene actively on behalf of Sri Lanka's Tamils with whom they have ethnic and cultural ties.

The last three weeks have seen a flurry of diplomatic activity with President Jayewardene sending his brother Hector as special envoy for talks with Indian leaders, and Indian foreign affairs adviser Gopalaswami Parathasarathy currently on a return visit here.

Air France Hijackers Surrender, Request Political Asylum

LD311107 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Aug 83

[Text] According to latest reports received from our correspondents at Mehrabad Airport, the hijackers of the Air France plane have finally surrendered to the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and have requested political asylum.

Following the request for fuel by the hijackers of the Air France Boeing-727 and their threat to leave Tehran and explode the aircraft in Iraqi airspace, and the Islamic Republic of Iran's refusal, and following the suggestion of the Iranian authorities that two Iraqi and Lebanese clergymen meet with the hijackers, talks were conducted between the two Iraqi and Lebanese clergymen and the aircraft hijackers at 1110. The clergymen called on them to release the hostages and to surrender to the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The talks with the aircraft hijackers lasted for 30 minutes, after which the hijackers said they would respond later. According to this report, the aircraft hijackers requested a news conference and all domestic and foreign correspondents came to the aircraft at 1200.

At 1250, one of the hijackers announced that they will conduct the news conference at 1300. At 1320 three of the hijackers came out of the aircraft and one of them began reading a statement while the other two stood armed by the side of the aircraft. When the statement was finished, the hijackers surrendered to the authorities of the Islamic Republic and requested political asylum. Prior to the surrender, two of the hijackers fired three shots in the air and then surrendered.

Candidate Ministers Fail To Secure Majority Vote

LD311042 Tehran IRNA in English 2027 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — The Majlis today empowered Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi to supervise the three ministries of agriculture and rural development, housing and urban development and mines and minerals, until new ministers were appointed to run these ministries.

This was approved following submission of a bill to the Majlis in this respect, on Monday. Prime Minister Musavi had proposed to the Majlis last Thursday, candidates for the said three ministries as well as the ministries of commerce and labour and social welfare. However, candidates for the said three ministries failed to secure majority votes in the Majlis.

In the open session of the Majlis, speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to martyrdom anniversary of the late president and premier, Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Mohammad Javad Bahonar, Aug. 30, 1981, said that this incident would always remain in the history of the Islamic Republic of Iran. On the day that the terrorists committed such savage act and martyred the late Raja'i and Bahonar, they proved that they had no base amongst the public. Disappointed by the public hatred towards themselves, these terrorists committed such brutal act, he added.

Continuing his remarks on the same subject, the Majlis speaker said that terrorists who failed to gain anything but public despise, started looking for a support from outside the country and foreign powers. There was no doubt, he stressed, that elements who shed the blood of people such as the late Dr. Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, Raja'i and Bahonar, would have no way to reach a reconciliation with the people.

Therefore, these terrorists had to turn to foreign powers and as it was foreseen, they had now been turned into tools and puppets in the hands of criminals of the history. This was the fate of the terrorists, he pointed out.

The session ended at noon, the last one before the start of its summer recess. Date of the next session of the Majlis will be announced later.

Free Voice of Iran Analysis

GF301315 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The contrived Majlis of Khomeyni rejected three ministers proposed for Mir-Hoseyn Musavi's Cabinet, approving only two others. [Word indistinct] the rejection of the three new ministers was during a closed session of the Majlis yesterday. Many political observers consider a vote of no confidence in the three new Cabinet ministers a result of the struggle between the Majlis speaker, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and the prime minister, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

The disagreement between the speaker of the mullahs' Majlis and the prime minister of Khomeyni's regime has been smoldering behind the scene for some time and reached its current height recently as a result of remarks by Hashemi-Rafsanjani during the Friday prayer show. Hashemi-Rafsanjani strongly attacked the administrative organizations and accused government employees of being slow in carrying out their duties and of creating problems for the people.

Mir-Hoseyn Musavi earlier said government bills were stalled in the Majlis for long periods, tying the hands of the government in carrying out revolutionary plans.

The extent of the disagreement between Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Musavi reached such a stage that Khomeyni was forced to personally intervene. In a speech, he advised the Majlis deputies to avoid weakening the government and asked them to cooperate with the government.

Apparently during the closed session of the Majlis, Hashemi-Rafsanjani strongly attacked Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and said the new ministers did not have a shining record and most of them were not active in the course of the revolution. Although the text of the remarks by Rafsanjani was not ccarried by the radio of the regime, it has been said that Hashemi-Rafsanjani accused Musavi's government of being incapable of governing and stressed that there are many uncoordinated issues within the administrative organizations. He also stated that many bills have been approved by the Majlis but not implemented by the government. The Majlis finally decided to select

new officials to be put in charge of the three ministeries whose proposed ministers were not approved. The names of these individuals have not been issued yet and it is not clear whether they will be appointed by the government or the Majlis.

According to our reports, the resignation of a Tehran Majlis deputy was discussed in today's open session and the deputies refused to (?approve it).

Khamene'i Chairs Supreme Defense Council Session
LD302319 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council held a meeting tonight under the chairmanship of President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. Participating in the meeting were Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces; Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; and Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Also attending the meeting were Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Guards Corps; Sham'khani, deputy commander of the Islamic Guards Corps; and Kharrazi, supervisor of the War Propaganda Staff Headquarters. The session reviewed the situation on the warfronts and discussed future war plans. An exchange of views also took place and decisions were reached.

In an interview after the meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani replied to our correspondent's questions. The details of this interview will be broadcast in later news transmissions.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,443
LD301734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,443 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on the operational fronts in Piranshah between our forces and the Saddamist mercenaries. Islam's mighty victorious forces opened heavy artillery fire on enemy positions and units and, while checking the movements and traffic of Iraqi forces and repulsing enemy patrol operations, set ablaze and destroyed one enemy ammunition dump, several vehicles, and a supply bridge in the Darband and Hajj 'Umran regions and killed or wounded large numbers of Iraqi servicemen.

In the Baneh and Sar Dasht border regions, a fierce exchange of fire continued and thanks to fire from Islam's combatants certain sections of the defensive positions together with a number of Saddamist mercenaries were destroyed.

On the Bakhtaran border fronts, exchange of fire continued between our forces and the enemy and on the Sumar front the fire was even fiercer. Our forces, while consolidating their defensive positions, retaliated by returning the fire of the Saddamist forces and inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist mercenaries. Also by dispatching patrol groups and carrying out meticulously close reconnaissance, our forces controlled the enemy's movements and traffic and by opening fire on its forces neutralized all operations by the Iraqi forces.

During the exchange of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, Islam's mighty combatants, by opening retaliatory fire on the enemy's positions and fortifications, silenced the Iraqi forces' fire and inflicted losses and casualties on them.

This morning the criminals of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime bombed the outskirts of Marivan as a result of which six of our dear compatriots were martyred and another eight were wounded. During these barbarous operations by the Saddamist mercenaries, a number of the people's houses were destroyed.

Abadan yesterday continued to be subjected to artillery and long-range weapons fire by the Saddamist criminals and as a result a number of houses were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary Arrives 30 Aug
LD301805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, Libya's secretary for foreign liaison, arrived in Tehran this afternoon and was welcomed by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmad 'Azizi. Al-'Ubaydi is carrying a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to President Khamene'i. During his stay in Iran, the Libyan secretary for foreign liaison will meet with our country's authorities and will discuss issues related to the two countries, Africa, and the Middle East and other international affairs.

Al-'Ubaydi Comments on Visit
GF301840 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, the Libyan foreign minister who arrived here today, said that the main purpose of his visit was in accord with the frame-work of cooperation between Libya and the Islamic Republic.

During his stay here, the Libyan minister will convey verbal message of Libyan President Mu'ammar Qadhdhafi to the high ranking Iranian authorities.

Al-'Ubaydi told IRNA that the message of the Libyan president was related to the current developments in Africa and the Arab world.

Commenting on the recent visit of the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and his talks with Libyan officials, he said that talks between the two countries would continue and their importance and fruitfulness also increased.

Responding to a question as to who would head the Libyan delegation for the Palestine conference in Geneva, Al-'Ubaydi

said that Dr. 'Ali at-Turayki, Libya's representative in the U.N., would be in charge of the Libyan delegation.

Foreign Ministry Comments on Clashes in Lebanon

LD301824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] The spokesman for our country's Foreign Ministry talked in an interview about the intense clashes of the past 2 days west of Beirut between the joint forces of the Phalangists, the Armed Forces of Lebanon, and the U.S. intervention forces, on the one hand, and the oppressed Shi'ite Muslims of the region on the other. The spokesman said: From the time when the so-called peacekeeping forces, particularly the U.S. intervention forces, entered Beirut under the military shadow of the Zionist armed forces, these murdersand crimes were to be expected as the result of U.S. conspiracies.

The spokesman added: During the clashes of the past 2 days, when the U.S. Marines and the Phalangist militia opened bullet and artillery fire on the innocent Muslims and the deprived people of Lebanon in the western parts of Beirut, the authenticity of the above claim and the aggressive nature of these forces were clearly demonstrated.

He went on: The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that as long as the Zionist aggression and occupation continue under the political and military and economic support of the United Sttaes, such clashes are unavoidable and the deprived Muslims and the oppressed nation of Lebanon will continue to stand firm until their independent national sovereignty is realized despite these crimes.

The spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry also called on the world's free public opinion and all nonaffiliated international organizations and institutions to protest the continuation of such interventions and massacres.

41,500 Pilgrims Flown to Jidda as of 30 August

LD302352 Tehran IRNA in English 1942 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — A total of 41,500 Iranian pilgrims have ldft for Jidda, Saudi Arabia, as of 12:00 hours today for the holy ceremonies of Hajj. These pilgrims flew from Tehran, Tabriz, Mashhad, Isfahan and Shiraz to Jidda.

The office of the Islamic Republic Airlines announcing this today added that major problems have been experienced. [sentence as received]

The Islamic Republic Airlines has been commended for punctual observance of flight schedules to Jidda.

Reportage on PRC Railways Minister's Visit

Meeting With Transport Minister

LD261254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] PRC Railways Minister Chen Puru, who is heading a delegation, arrived in Tehran last night. This morning, he met and conferred with Minister of Roads and Transport Hadi Nezhad-Hoseyniyan.

In this meeting, our country's minister of roads and transport gave some statistics on the roads built after the victory of the revolution and compared them with the total roads built by the former regime. He described future plans for constructing roads and expanding the country's railways, ports, and airports.

The PRC railways minister expressed the hope that the two countries' cooperation in roads and transport will expand.

Afterward, the roads and transport minister and the Chinese railways minister and his entourage visited the activities and work carried out on the railways and in their workshops.

27 Aug Tour of Isfahan

LD271320 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Isfahan, Aug 27, IRNA — The railways minister of the People's Republic of China, Chen Puru, today inspected historical monuments here. The Chinese minister was accompanied by his Iranian host, Minister of Roads and Transportation Nejhad-Hoseyniyan, Chinese ambassador to the Islamic Republic and a number of officials at the Iranian Ministry of Roads and Transportation.

The Chinese guest arrived in Tehran Thursday night to hold talks with Iranian officials on the mutual cooperation in the field of railway industries.

29 Aug Talks With Ministers

LD291349 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, Chen Puru, railways minister of the People's Republic of China, who is currently in Iran, met and conferred this morning with Mohammad Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, our country's minister of road and transport. During this meeting, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Islamic Republic of Iran and the delegation accompanying the Chinese minister were also present.

Hadinezhad-Hoseynian briefed the Chinese guests on his ministry's work within the framework of the Islamic Republic's 5-year economic-social development plan and remarked on the Islamic combatants victories on the fronts of the imposed war.

The PRC railways minister, referring to the history of the two nations fight against superpowers, expressed the hope that such visits between officials would lead to expansion of bilateral ties in all fields. The PRC railways minister also met and conferred this morning with Mohammad Taqi Banki, minister of state and head of the country's plan and budget organization.

During this meeting, Banki said: After the victory of the revolution our society has witnessed numerous successes. Among those successes, one is completion of the Islamic Republic's economic, social, and cultural planning without dependence on foreign experts.

At the conclusion of his remarks, the Iranian minister called for an exchange of information on planning between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China.

Later, the PRC railways minister said: The common grounds which exist in planning between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China are maintenance of independence and non-dependence on foreign powers. Spelling out the astonishing developments that have taken place in Iran following the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the Chinese minister referred to the future of relations and cooperation between the two countries and called the existing grounds for increasing those ties and cooperation very suitable.

Meeting With Musavi

LD292257 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Chen Puru, PRC railways minister, and Nejat-Hoseynian, our country's minister of roads and transport, met Prime Minister Musavi this morning. While expressing his pleasure at being in Iran, the Chinese railways minister conveyed greetings from the Chinese prime minister to our country's prime minister. He said: We have seen the great accomplishments of your nation resulting from the victory of the Islamic Revolution. We saw the zeal and revolutionary spirit of your pure and industrious people everywhere.

While thanking the Chinese railways minister, Musavi said: By relying on the masses, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been able to overcome difficulties. While explaining the neither East nor West principle, the prime minister said: We wish to be a country in the region that is not subjected to any injustice and that does not commit any injustice against any other country. We have learned this from the Koran and Islam.

29 Aug Departure

LD292351 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, Chen Puru, PRC railways minister, and his entourage, left Tehran tonight, after being seen off by our country's roads and transport minister.

'Minigroups Roundtable Discussion' Announced

LD271054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2130 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Dear audience, as promised, we present to you the program entitled: "Minigroups Roundtable Discussion."

In this program, which has been convened with the presence of hundreds of members and cadres of the Mojahedin-e Khalq, questions raised on behalf of the minigroups and other strata of society will be answered. As mentioned in the previous program, this series has already been broadcast on the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the countrywide network. We are presenting to you dear ones a repeat of the television program which has already been watched by the self-sacrificing nation of Islamic Iran.

The main points of the discussion at these meetings, according to a quotation from the chairman of the meeting — who himself was a cadre of the hypocrites minigroup — are:

1. Analysis made by the Mojahedin-e Khalq on the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution;

2. Hypocrites attitude toward the illustrious authorities of the revolution leadership;

3. Organization's propaganda policy against the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic;

4. Roundup of the hypocrites' political activities after the victory of the revolution until 20 June [1981];

5. What evidence do we have indicating the hypocrites planned conspiracy against the Islamic Republic and the Islamic Revolution of the Iranian people?

6. Why were the hypocrites unable to carry out armed struggle and acts of terrorism against the new system in the beginning?

7. Organization's stance on minorities, elections, and the issue of freedom generally;

8. What was the organization's role in the club-wielding issue? [reference to June 1981 event at Tehran University];

9. Links between the hypocrites and other counterrevolutionary minigroups and the instances of discord among them;

10. Reason behind the 20 June [1981] movement;

11. Organization's stance on the Iraqi imposed war on Iran;

12. Ways of implementing policies among the organizations's various social establishments;

13. And finally, was the organization seeking ways to serve the interests of the people?

The above subjects are the agenda for tonight's discussion and several future sessions. They will also answer questions in connection with the hypocrites' moves after the victory of the revolution until 20 June. In reply to these questions, last week you heard preliminary talks by Reza Keyvanzad; this week we follow the program with remarks by Miss Maryam Mirza'i.

'Confessions' of Former Mojahedin-e Khalq Members

LD292213 Tehran IRNA in English 2024 GMT 29 Aug 83

[All punctuation as received]

[Text] Tehran, Aug, 29, IRNA — In a dialogue which was broadcast on the television here tonight, ex-members of the outlawed Mujahideen Khalq organisation [MKO] publicly confessed to having committed acts of blinkered terrorism in Tehran and elsewhere throughout the country for intimidating the public and undermining the Islamic government in Iran. The following are excerpts from the confessions of a few ex-members of the outlawed organisation.

Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Hokama:

After June 20, 1981, we decided to involve the public in our operations. Then we organized the anarchic demonstrations in September which was a failure...Between that time and September 27 we followed up schemes for seizing government institutions, committees (of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps), Majlis and Jamaran (Imam Khomeyni's residence)...Every time the organization failed in its schemes the policy makers of the organisation would then argue that they had not really failed in that scheme and that the idea was to implement what had already been implemented.

In each scheme the idea behind each operation was mere terrorism. The idea was to undermine the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran by state coup...But what the Munafiqeen were doing they were in fact exacting revenge from the ordinary people because the people had not supported them in their street demonstrations and because they had supported the Islamic Republic...

Sohrab Sohrabi:

I was directly and personally involved in terroristic operations. Just one instance of my various missions was the blowing up of the residence of a person who was said to a Hezbollahi (Muslim fundamentalist). We drove to his place at about six o'clock in the morning and threw a Molotov cocktail into his house and immediately left the spot. We also threw a grenade into a chandelier shop in Hafez Avenue just because its proprietor was known to be a Muslim fundamentalist. Four people were martyred in the ensuing explosion....

Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Hokama: In the opinion of the organisation anybody, ranging from the person who keeps a portrait of Imam Khomeyni or those who may have other judgments are all Muslim fundamentalists and must all be killed because they are in the final analysis supporters of the Islamic Republic....According to the teachings of our organisation the idea was to intimidate actual and would-be supporters of the Islamic Republic, so that they may be dissuaded and later join the organization...the September 27 operations were a failure and it was learned that by killing the men in the street and throwing of grenades nothing substantial could possibly be done. After the September 27 episode, which it (MKO) had declared before hand, to mark the toppling of the Islamic government, it then said that the organization had dealt crucial blows upon the Islamic Government from June 20 until September 27 and that now the target of the blows must be the military body of the government...and that any person who is a supporter of the government must be killed.

Check our evening dispatches on Tuesday August 30 for a fuller coverage of dialogue with ex-members of the MKO.